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REMARKS

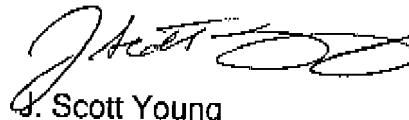
Claims 1-9, 11-14, 20, and 23-46 are pending in the application before entry of this Amendment. Claims 1-9, 11, 14, 20, 25-31, and 34-40 stand allowed. By way of this Amendment, claims 12, 13, 32, 33, and 41-46 have been canceled.

All pending rejections have been rendered moot by cancellation of the rejected claims.

All remaining claims have been indicated as allowable, and Applicants assert that the application is in condition for allowance. In the alternative, entry of the amendment is at least appropriate because it places the application in a better condition for appeal, as permitted by 37 CFR 1.116.

The present Amendment is filed within the shortened two month period from the date of the action. If the Examiner has any questions about this response, they are encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Scott Young
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 45,582

Date: Dec 4 2006
GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
Five Moore Drive, PO Box 13398
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
(919) 483-8160
fax: (919) 483-7988
Scott.S.Young@GSK.com